

GAS-0350

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10 July 1959

Dear Doc:

We have, after much consideration, concluded that the scanning Schmidt System described in Engineering Report 5465 (systems 5A and 5B) will not work. This results from high light obscuration required to avoid skewed imagery or, if we decrease the obscuration, the skewing becomes worse; and in neither case have we been able to devise an appropriate image motion compensation.

For the West Coast Vehicle we are now giving preliminary consideration to a scanning system involving four T-5 lenses arranged in a fashion similar to the scanning Schmidt Systems. Simultaneously we are investigating other possible lens systems. At the moment no one system provides adequate coverage, scale and resolution.

For your information the 240 inch aerial reconnaissance system appears to be an excellent example of poor mounting of optical elements. Rod, Paul and myself studied it yesterday and we are of the opinion that most of the difficulties of that system, exclusive of excessive size, result from mechanically strained optical elements. We appreciate your assistance in making it possible for us to study this system. I am sure that all three of us have benefited from observing the serious consequences which can result from inadequate design.

Tentatively, I would like to visit your office on Wednesday, 29 July to present a July Progress Report. At this meeting I would like to have both Rod and [redacted] present. I believe it will be valuable for Dick to receive a briefing on your programs, since he will be line supervisor to this program during Rod's absence and I think that the most appropriate time for him to visit is this proposed meeting. I would appreciate your letting me know whether you concur with this plan.

STATINTL

Yours very truly

*Milt*

Milt

MDR:mb